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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 MAPUTO 001752

SIPDIS

STATE FOR INL, AF/S, AF/RSA

JUSTICE FOR OIA, AFMLS, AND NDDS

TREASURY FOR FINCEN

DEA FOR OILS AND OFFICE OF DIVERSION CONTROL

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [SNAR](#) [EFIN](#) [KCRM](#) [PTER](#) [PGOV](#) [MZ](#) [KCOR](#)

SUBJECT: 2003-2004 INCSR SUBMISSION - MOZAMBIQUE

REF: A) STATE 324347

B) STATE 328024

1. Per ref A, below is post's submission for 2003-2004 INCSR:

#### I. Summary

Mozambique is a transit country for illegal drugs (hashish, herbal cannabis, cocaine, mandrax (methaqualone), and heroin) consumed in Europe and South Africa. Some hashish shipments passing through Mozambique find their way to the United States and Canada. The country's porous borders, poorly policed seacoast, and inadequately trained and equipped law enforcement agencies facilitate transshipment of narcotics to South Africa. Drug production is limited to herbal cannabis cultivation and mandrax laboratories. Available evidence suggests significant use of herbal cannabis and limited consumption of "club drugs" (Ecstasy, etc.), prescription medicines, and heroin among the urban elite. The Mozambican government recognizes drug use and drug trafficking as serious problems, but has limited resources to address these issues. Cooperation programs with the UNODC and bilateral donors have attempted to improve training of drug control officials and provide better interdiction and laboratory equipment. Corruption in the police and judiciary significantly hampers counternarcotics efforts. Mozambique is a party to the 1998 UN Drug Convention.

#### II. Status of Country

Mozambique is not a significant producer of illegal drugs. Herbal cannabis for local consumption is produced throughout the country, particularly in Tete, Nampula, and Cabo Delgado provinces. Limited amounts are exported to neighboring countries, particularly South Africa. Some factories producing mandrax for the South African market were raided and closed down in 1995, 2000 and 2002. Mozambique's role has grown rapidly as a drug-transit country. Southwest Asian producers ship cannabis resin (hashish) and synthetic drugs through Mozambique to Europe and South Africa. Limited quantities of these shipments may also reach the United States and Canada. Reports from the Mozambican Office for the Prevention and Fight Against Drugs (GCPCD) indicate that heroin and other opiate derivatives shipped through Mozambique originate in Southeast Asia. Increasing amounts of cocaine from Colombia and Brazil transit Portugal and Angola or Mozambique (all Portuguese speaking countries) on their way to South Africa. International flights from Lisbon to Maputo and from Dar es Salaam to Pemba provide a conduit for smuggling into South Africa. With the assistance of the South African police, numerous arrests were made in 2003 of drug couriers originating in Brazil, who transit Mozambique from Portugal on route to Johannesburg or continue through Johannesburg to Maputo to take advantage of the relatively lax controls disembarking in Maputo. Mozambique is not a producer of precursor chemicals.

#### III. Country Actions Against Drugs in 2003

Accomplishments. Mozambique's accomplishments in meeting its goals under the 1988 UN Drug Convention remain limited. Government resources devoted to the counternarcotics effort are meager, and only limited donor funds are available. Mozambique is cooperating with the UNODC through two assistance projects designed to increase law enforcement capacity and border control. Local law enforcement agents in some provinces have destroyed cannabis crops. In 1995, 2000, and 2002, Mozambique cooperated with South Africa in raiding Mandrax factories near Maputo. Mozambican officials also seized assets connected with the production of mandrax, but not assets related to profits derived from drug sales. The Mozambican government carries out drug education programs in local schools in cooperation with bilateral and multilateral donors as part of its demand reduction efforts. Law Enforcement Efforts. Mozambique's drug unit, which operates in Maputo and reports to the Chief of the Criminal Investigation Police, received refresher training in drug interdiction techniques as part of a UNODC program in 2001 and 2002. Under this program, 20 officers were hired and trained to staff drug units. Drug detection equipment was installed at border posts, ports, and airports. Customs officers at Maputo airport and seaport have received drug interdiction training under a UNODC program. The UNODC is working with customs agents at land borders as part of a program with Mozambique, South Africa, and Swaziland.

Publicized seizures in 2003 include:

- The seizure of heroin being smuggled from Brazil via Lisbon by two couriers at Maputo Mavalane International Airport in October and November and the arrest in South Africa in December of a Tanzanian national identified by the couriers.
- The seizure by customs officials of 9.3 kilos of cocaine found in the baggage of a passenger arriving at Mavalane Airport in December.
- The detention of three senior police officers in Inhambane province for trafficking in hashish and marijuana in November 2003. The drugs were seized from a Pakistani national in 2001.
- The seizure of 75 kilos of a chemical used in the manufacture of mandrax found in a parked car on a busy street in Maputo in November.
- The arrest of a Tanzanian national in May at Mavalane Airport smuggling 2 kilograms of cocaine in his stomach. Mozambique has not received requests for the extradition of drug-related suspects.

Corruption. Corruption is pervasive in Mozambique.

Mozambique has not prosecuted government officials for corruption relating to the production, processing, or shipment of narcotic and psychotropic drugs or controlled substances, nor has it prosecuted any individual for discouraging the investigation or prosecution of such acts. Agreements and Treaties. Mozambique is a party to the 1988 UN Drug Convention, the 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances. Mozambique has signed, but has not yet ratified, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Cultivation/Production. Cannabis is cultivated in Nampula, Zambezia, Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Tete, Manica, and Sofala provinces. The Mozambican government has no estimates on crop size. Intercropping is reportedly common.

Drug Flow/Transit. Assessments of drugs transiting Mozambique are based upon limited seizure data and observations of local and UNODC officials. Mozambique increasingly serves as a transit country for hashish, cannabis resin, heroin, and Mandrax originating in Southwest Asia, owing to its vast, unpatrolled coastline, lack of resources for interdiction and sea, air, and land borders, and growing transportation links with neighboring countries. Drugs destined for the South African and European markets arrive in Mozambique by small ship, especially in the coastal areas of the northern provinces, including islands off Cabo Delgado and Nampula. The Maputo corridor border crossing at Ressano Garcia/Lebombo is an important transit point. Hashish and heroin are also shipped on to Europe, and there is evidence that some hashish may reach Canada and the United States, but not in significant quantities. Arrests in Brazil, Mozambique and South Africa indicate cocaine is being shipped by drug couriers from Colombia and Brazil to Mozambique through Lisbon for onward shipment to South Africa and East Asia. In addition, there is anecdotal evidence that Nigerian and Tanzanian cocaine traffickers have targeted Mozambique as a gateway to the South African and European markets.

Domestic Programs (Demand Reduction). The primary drugs of abuse are alcohol and herbal cannabis. Heroin, cocaine, and "club drug" usage and prescription drug abuse are also reported among Mozambique's urban elite. The GCPCD has developed a drug education program for use in schools. It has provided the material to a number of local NGOs for use in their drug education programs. The Maputo GCPCD office conducted an education program aimed at youth in 2001. The program included plays and lectures in schools, churches, and other places where youth gather. The Sofala provincial GCPCD office has created a community volunteer educational program. Funds were not available in 2003 for continuation of these education programs beyond major cities. Drug abuse and treatment options are scarce. The GCPCD is seeking donor assistance in creating three regional treatment centers in Maputo, Beira, and Nampula.

#### IV. U.S. Policy Initiatives and Programs

THE USG SENDS MOZAMBICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND PROSECUTORS TO REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY (ILEA) FOR AFRICA IN BOTSWANA. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAVE ALSO RECEIVED TRAINING AT ILEA NEW MEXICO.

THE BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS PROVIDED SUPPORT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ANTI-CORRUPTION UNIT AND THE POLICE SCIENCES ACADEMY (ACIPOL). THE FUNDS PROVIDE FOR TRAINING, SPECIALIZED COURSE INSTRUCTION, INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT, AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT FOR ACIPOL. THE ANTI-CORRUPTION UNIT, WHICH BEGAN OPERATIONS IN NOVEMBER 2002, HAS RECEIVED SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND ADVISOR VISITS THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OPDAT PROGRAM, AS WELL AS RENOVATION OF THEIR OFFICE FACILITY, IT EQUIPMENT, AND OFFICE FURNITURE, FUNDED BY AID. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ICITAP PROGRAM PROVIDES A MEDIUM-TERM ADVISOR TO ACIPOL TO COORDINATE THESE ACTIVITIES. The Department of Defense has assisted the Mozambican navy to develop a plan for improved coastal surveillance

activities, and is providing training to Mozambican military personnel. However, the USG cannot provide the Mozambican navy with resources for coastal patrol capacity until the Mozambican parliament establishes a codified system of maritime law.

HANKINS